Canadian Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Vol. 13, No. 19 TORONTO, MAY 12, 1948 $2.00 Per Annum

18 New FPC Houses For 1948

Decline In Param't Overall Earnings

Earnings of Paramount Pictures Incorporated for the fiscal year (52 weeks) ended January 3rd, 1948, totalled $31,668,709 after all charges including estimated provision for taxes on income, according to the annual report of the company issued re-

(Continued on Page 8)

Pastor Prays For New Pic House

When David Flexer opened the first theatre in Waverley, Tennessee, the Rev. F. F. Moore, pastor of the Waverley Methodist Church offered a prayer. We are obliged to Max Youngstein of the USA Eagle-Lion organization for calling our attention

(Continued on Page 8)

Shareholders' Report Praises Company Personnel's Work

"Famous Players' theatres are planning to spend in the neighborhood of $3,000,000 in remodelling existing theatres and building new ones," said J. J. Fitzgibbons, CBE, president of Famous Players Canadian Corporation Ltd., in his annual address to the shareholders of the company at a recent meeting held in the Royal Bank building. "The company has under construction or in the blueprint stages at least 18 new theatres for 1948."

He branded as discriminatory the proposals of several provincial governments to impose amusement taxes on theatres.

"The collection of amusement taxes for federal and provincial

(Continued on Page 9)

Alban Janin Passes In Montreal At 68

Alban Janin, 68, long connected with the Quebec section of the Canadian motion picture industry, passed away in Montreal recently after a brief illness.

He was president of A. Janin and Co., general contractors, of Montreal Contruction Supply and Equipment Ltd., Railway Exchange Building Co., Compagnie France-Film, Compagnie Cinematographique Canadienne, and a director of European Amiesite Co., Ltd.

His passing from the film scene will be regretted.

Teamed For 'Lovers'

Cornel Wilde and his wife, Patricia Knight, will team up for the first time on the screen in Columbia's "The Lovers."

Indies Keep Pace In Theatre Race

One new theatre opened, construction began on two others and plans were announced for two new projects in current reports in industry building activity across the Dominion. Additionally, two more houses opened — one being built on the site

(Continued on Page 3)

Fox Preps Drive For Andy Smith

Twentieth Century-Fox has designated the four-week period starting May 30th and ending June 26th as Andy Smith Anniversary Month in honor of the general sales manager's first year as head of the distribution department, it was announced.

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Clauses Amended In Ontario Tax Act

Several amendments to simplify the collection of the forthcoming Ontario amusement tax and clear up misunderstandings in the Hospitals Tax Act, 1948, under which the tax will be collected, were worked out at a recent meeting in Queen's Park between government and exhibitor representatives.

These were agreed to by the Honorable Leslie M. Frost, finance minister, and Chester Walters, deputy finance minister, who, along with members of the treasury staff, met with John J. Fitzgibbons, R. W. Bolstad and H. S. Mandell, representa-

(Continued on Page 3)

'Bowery Comeback'

The Bowery Boys' next starring film at Monogram will be "Bowery Comeback," to be produced by Jan Grippo.

VARIETY CLUBROOMS OPEN

The beautiful clubrooms of Tent 28, Toronto, Variety International, were opened on Saturday, May 8th in the Prince George Hotel, King & York Streets, at 12 p.m. It is suggested that those barkers who are accustomed to playing gin rummy on Saturday afternoon in various places arrange their games for the club quarters, which are under the supervision of Paul Courtney, chief steward.

First look at the new quarters, rated among the best in Variety circles, was had by those who attended Ladies' Night on May 4th in the Fiesta Room of the Prince George.

At the recent meeting of the club Monty Hall, Peter M. Grant, Henry A. Harvey, Dennis Stone and Charles Bochner were inducted.

Morris Stein, R. W. Bolstad and Hye Bossin reported on their recent attendance at the 12th annual convention in Miami.

USA Supreme Court Reaffirms Decree

The motion picture industry of the United States is still reeling from the blows of the Supreme Court in Washington which, in a series of decisions, upheld the anti-trust decree, issued at the end of 1946, which was being appealed. The findings, if put into effect, will end most present distribution practices and cause divorcement of theatres from the holdings of Paramount and 20th Century-Fox.

There have been anti-trust actions in Canada by the government and private persons in the past but these were not upheld by the courts. It is hard to

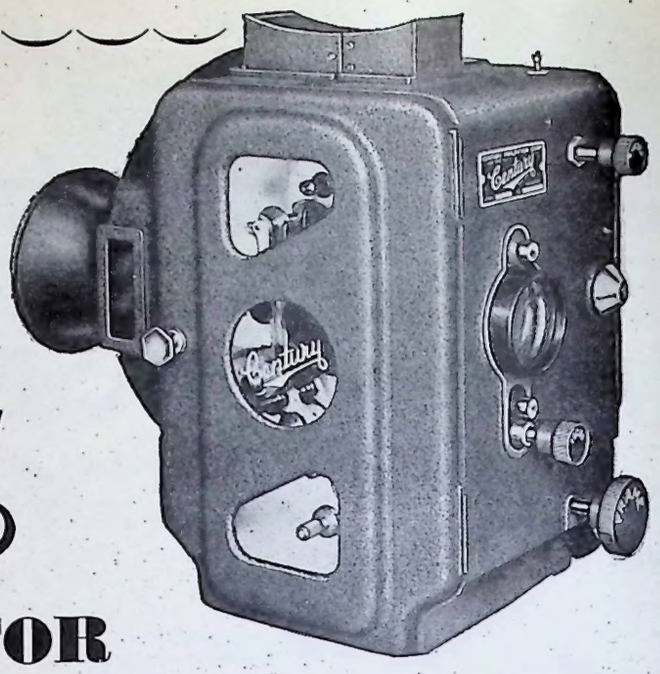
(Continued on Page 3)

Zinneman To Direct

Fred Zinneman has been signed by MGM to direct the late Mark Hellinger's "Act of Violence."

"Patrons Will Be Delighted" — SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW They're at their FUNNIEST!
ABBOTT and COSTELLO in 'THE NOOSE HANGS HIGH'
An EAGLE LION (Hollywood) film COMING SOON from INTERNATIONAL FILM DISTRIBUTORS Limited

"Command Performance"



THE Century PROJECTOR

All over Canada hundreds of satisfied theatre owners acclaim the merits of The Century! We here list some of the many Canadian Theatres where Century Projectors have been installed.

NOVA SCOTIA

Paramount	Amherst
Capitol	Annapolis
Armview	Armdale
Bedford	Bedford
Bligh's	Berwick
Strand	Bridgetown
Capitol	Bridgewater
R.C.A.F.	Dartmouth
Capitol	Digby
Regent	Greenwood
H.M.C. Dockyard	Halifax
Regent	Joggins
Capitol	Middleton
York	New Germany
Odeon	North Sydney
Capitol	Pictou
Capitol	Shelbourne
Star	Sydney
Imperial	Windsor
Capitol	Yarmouth

NEW BRUNSWICK & P.E.I.

Capitol	Andover
Capitol	Chipman
Kum-C	Dieppe
Green's	Florenceville
Opera House	Grand Falls
Community	Grand Mannan
Star	Lewisville
Capitol	McAdam
Gaiety	Minto
Petitcodiac	Petitcodiac
Community	Plaster Rock
Acadia	St. Leonard
Vogue	Sackville
Capitol	Shediac
Marina	St. Andrews
Regent	Summerside, P.E.I.
Community	West Saint John
Maple Leaf	Wilson's Beach

QUEBEC

Acton-Vale	Acton-Vale
Consolidated Paper Corp. Ltd.	Anticosti Island
Palace	Arvida
Laurentian	Baie St. Paul
Madelon	Cap-de-la-Made'aine
Capitol	Chicoutimi
Cartier	Chicoutimi
Royal	Donnacona
Dorion	Dorion
Palace	Granby
National	Grand'Mere
Palace	Grand'Mere
Passe Temps	Joliette
Canada	Levis
Bijou	Montreal
Cartier	Montreal
Cremazie	Montreal
Crystal Palace	Montreal
Lido	Montreal
Mercier	Montreal
Regal	Montreal
Ritz	Montreal
Univ. of Montreal	Montreal
Laurentian	Mount Laurier
Community Club	Normetal
Pascalis	Pascalis
Princess	Riviere-du-Loup
Quebec Productions Ltd.	St. Hyacinthe
Canadian	St. Joseph D'Alma
Chateau	St. Julienne
Georges	St. Therese
Rheo	St. Tite
Auditorium	Shawinigan Falls
Premier	Sherbrooke
Salle Notre Dame	Three Rivers
Cinema Ville Marie	Ville Marie

ONTARIO

O'Brien	Almonte
O'Brien	Arnprior
Beam	Beamsville
Royal	Bowmanville
Capitol	Brantford
Audion	Capreol
Savoy	Card'nal
Roxy	Chesley
Starlite	Chippawa
Roxy	Cornwall
Majestic	Dresdon
Roxy	Grimsby
Regah	Hagersville
Skyway Drive-in	Hamilton
Central Patricia Gold Mines	Hudson
Pickle Crow Gold Mines	Hudson
Imperial	Humberstone
Princess	Little Current
Rex	London
Strand	Marathon
Roxy	Markham
Plaza	Mitchel
Brock	Niagara-on-the-Lake
Mayfair	Ottawa
Rexy	Ottawa
Norgan	Palmerston
O'Brien	Pembroke
Iroquois	Petrolia
O'Brien	Renfrew
Palace	St. Catharines
Lyric	St. Mary's
United Church Hall	Smooth Rock Falls
Tivoli	Thorold
Biltmore	Toronto
Brighton	Toronto
Empire	Toronto
Grant	Toronto
Hollywood Annex	Toronto
Queensway Studios	Toronto
Skyway Drive-in	Toronto
Warner Bros. Review Room	Toronto
R.C.A.F. Ensign Theatre	Toronto
Skyview	Wasaga Beach
Roxy	Walkerton
Westboro	Westboro
Skyway Drive-in	Windsor

MANITOBA

Oak	Brandon
Century	Grandview
Gimli	Gimli
Gaiety	Killarney
Starland	Morden
Lakson	Rorketon
C.A.T.C.	Shilo
Winkler	Winkler
Odeon	Winnipeg
Park	Winnipeg
R.C.A.F.	Winnipeg

SASKATCHEWAN

Bruno	Bruno
Military	Dundurn
Community	Esterhazy
Eston	Eston
Orpheum	Estevan
Movieland	Gainsborough
Gaiety	Gravelbourg
Lux	Hudson Bay Jnt.
Lux	Humboldt
Rex	Kindersley
LeRoy	LeRoy
Grand	Melfort
Orpheum	Prince Albert
Strand	Prince Albert
Princess	Radville
Broadway	Regina
Roxy	Regina
Century	Regina Beach
Broadway	Saskatoon
Shellbrook	Shellbrook
Star	Watson
Palace	Willowbunch
Vogue	Wynard

ALBERTA

Community	Barons
Community Centre	Beaver Lodge
Tivoli	Calgary
Mayfair	Cardston
Napier	Drumheller
Capitol	Grand Prairie
Capitol	Hanna
Roxy	High Prairie
Chaba	Jasper
Watson's	McLennan
Sylvia	Newcastle
Crescent	Red Deer
Uptown	Sylvan Lake
Westlock	Westlock

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Van-Isle	Campbell River
Cadet	Esquimalt
H.M.C. Dockyard	Esquimalt
Orpheum	Fernie
Vogue	Fernie
Langley	Langley Prairie
Edison	New Westminster
Odeon	New Westminster
Pacific Mills	Ocean Falls
Capitol	Port Alberni
Cascades Drive-in	Vancouver
Ho'lyburn	Vancouver
York	Victoria
R.C.A.F.	Patricia Bay

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Indies Keep Pace In Theatre Race

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and carrying the name of a theatre that was completely destroyed by fire and the other being a re-opening of an existing theatre by a group of local businessmen after it was closed by the owner.

B&L Theatres, a Maritimes circuit, recently opened its new Hartland, NB, house. Seating 550 and costing $100,000, the new situation is the second in Hartland, the other being the 500-seat Capitol, also owned by B&L.

Under construction are two theatres. J. Purnell and Sons has started work on rebuilding its fire-gutted 338-seat Palace in Coleman, Alberta, the only one there. Theatre Holding Corporation, operators of the 788-seat Capitol in Smith Falls, Ontario, has started work on its second house for the community.

In the architects' hands are two projects, S. O. Axelrod's $40,000 structure in Ingersoll, Ontario, and the Canadian Legion Branchs' theatre for Whitewood, Saskatchewan. In the former location Premier Operating has the 448-seat Maitland and in the latter H. S. Humphrey has the 150-seat, two-day Rex.

Open again after almost two years is the 600-seat Palace in Granby, Quebec. The Palace was a complete loss after a fire which took place early in 1946. Owner is Dr. J. E. Guibord and policy of the house is five days of English-language films and two of French. Operating in Granby are two R. Roberts' houses, the new 1,300-seat Ritz which shows French-language pictures and the 600-seat Cartier which uses only English-speaking films.

A group of local businessmen have taken over the only motion picture house in Neilburg, Saskatchewan, the 125-seat Community, and have installed new projectors and sound system. The Community is being operated two days weekly, the same policy which prevailed when it was under the direction of D. E. Ball.

Five Sales Meetings Set By Paramount

Five divisional sales meetings to climax the current sales season and prepare the groundwork for the 1948-49 product and policies have been set by Paramount. Each will be presided over by Charles M. Reagan, vice-president, and will last three days.

Conferences will take place in New York beginning May 13th; Philadelphia, May 17th; Chicago, May 24th; Kansas City, June 3rd; and San Francisco, June 7th.

USA Supreme Court Reaffirms Decree

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predict what effect the American action will have on the ideas of Canadian exhibitors. Industry bickering on this side of the line faded out a few years ago, when exhibitors and distributors failed to come to an agreement with regard to conciliation and arbitration.

In four separate cases the United States Supreme Court did the following:

Directed lower courts to go further into the question whether Hollywood should also be required to get out of the theatre business;

Backed a finding that the producers and distributors are subject to damage claims if they refuse to license their best pictures in independent theatres for first-run showing;

Upheld in major part anti-trust decrees against two big theatre chains.

Principal defendants in the major movie case are the "Big Five" — 20th Century-Fox, Paramount, RKO, Loew's (MGM) and Warner Brothers.

The government wanted an order for them to sell their interest in 3,137 theatres, contending that there is no other way to open the movie industry to free competition.

The high court pointed out conditions under which such an order might be valid, and said lower courts had not yet investigated whether those conditions exist.

The "Big Five" produce, distribute and exhibit movies. The case has been in court since 1938.

The high court agreed that there had been price-fixing agreements, setting admissions at which pictures could be shown. These should be outlawed, the court said.

It held also that there was adequate evidence of a conspiracy to restrain trade by giving "advantageous clearances" to some theatres. "Clearance" is the time before a competing house may show a picture.

The court also threw out arrangements under which major companies jointly own or operate certain theatres or chains, holding that the system stifles competition.

It fully approved the lower court's rule against block booking in which a theatre or chain must take some pictures in order to get others that it wants. The high court pointed out testimony that the five major concerns have an interest in at least 70 per cent of the first-run theatres in 92 cities with a population over 100,000.

Later despatches from Washington stated that the Supreme Court had sent back to the lower courts a series of cases, asking that the questions of monopoly and conspiracy be reopened.

Hughes Buying Big RKO Radio Interest

Howard Hughes, movie producer and airplane tycoon, has reached a tentative agreement with Floyd Odlum, chairman of the board of directors of RKO Radio Pictures, Incorporated, for the purchase of the latter's 928,000 shares of RKO stock.

Cash amounting to between $8 and $9 millions is involved in the deal.

'Knock On Any Door'

"Knock on Any Door" will be the first of two films that Santana Productions will make for Columbia Pictures. Humphrey Bogart, president of Santana, will star in the picture.

H. T. Long Passes In Toronto Home

In the Canadian motion picture industry for more than 25 years prior to his retirement from it several years ago, H. T. Long passed away in Toronto last week at the age of 53.

Long entered the business with Paramount, leaving it after five years to become Saint John branch manager for First National. Later he joined Tiffany and from it went to Associated Theatres as assistant general manager, then became manager.

In 1942 he joined Pioneer Films and was later transferred to Hanson 16 Mm. Movies. Several years ago he left the industry for a task more in keeping with his health, for he had suffered from a heart condition for many years.

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Clauses Amended In Ontario Act

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tives of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario.

It was agreed that the clause which gives the government the right to apply the 20 per cent tax on "any charge made in a place of amusement for meals or refreshments that are served in conjunction with any dance, performance or entertainment" would not apply to confections in motion picture theatres. Exhibitors felt that the clause as it read originally would lead to a tax on drinks and confections.

Also amended was the clause which stipulated that in calculating the 20 per cent tax, "every fraction of one cent shall be counted as one cent." This would have made it difficult to charge an over-all admission of 25 cents, one of the most popular prices, which is made up of 21 cents for the ticket and four cents for tax. At the request of the exhibitors the clause was changed to read that "every fraction of more than one-half cent shall be counted as one cent." This also gives the theatre operator a financial break.

The treasury department also accepted the suggestion that the clause which called for a return on the tenth day of each month was not practicable for all exhibitors and will co-operate so that their accounting methods won't be upset.

Another important amendment was to the clause which required that each return shall "be verified by the affidavit of the owner" or a leading officer or representative of the company, and that a sworn financial statement showing "receipts and expenditures" of the business must be attached. This now reads that the return "be certified by the owner" or the company officer or representative, and the attached financial statement, certified as correct instead of by affidavit, shall show receipts. It is not necessary to show expenditures.

Since the announcement of several provincial governments that they will occupy the amusement taxation field when vacated by the federal government, opposition by newspapers, labor unions and others has been growing. The Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario, like exhibitor organizations in other provinces, is continuing to protest against the tax as discriminatory and too high.

'The Walking Hills'

Randolph Scott and Ella Raines have been signed to star in Columbia's "The Walking Hills."

Gothamania

Short Throws

Manhattan Meanderings

Visiting New York after an absence of a decade was like the thrill of rediscovering an old-new love. The Naked City seemed to have donned its gayest garments in welcome. The brighter lights and the quicker pace gives the mistaken impression that Broadway's hurrying thousands are also new-timers.

I was tempted to allow myself to be whisked through the biggest of big towns in one of those sight-unseeing busses, in which your head swivels forth and back, back and forth while trying to separate the guide's words from the million other sounds with which they have merged.

Instead I favored my feet, a fact which they resented decidedly after a week. By that time the passion of reunion had cooled somewhat. But Manhattan is never without magic, even to those who have lived in it all their lives.

By this time the haze had cleared up considerably and I was able to discern changes in the character of Broadway when they developed. For instance, on Saturday afternoon it lost some of its cosmopolitan flavor. On that half-holiday the natives recaptured it and the great temples of dining and entertainment, which played host to outlanders with saved-up money during the rest of the week, became just local shows and eateries.

Circus time also. It is then that fresh-faced balloon-bearing children, their eyes still shining with honest pleasure as they come from the world of clown and animals that is now Madison Square Gardens, give Broadway a touch of the country fair.

Nor was I any different during my first few days. I managed to scribble the notes which follow while my powers of observation were stimulated by the novelty.

* * *

Big City Brevignettes

Rockefeller Plaza, with the surrounding buildings reaching into the sky like giant plants of stone, is the eastern version of the Petrified Forest.

At one of the corners of that Grandiloquent Canyon, Fifth Avenue, past midnight, a group of workmen are placing a tree in a large hole made for it at the edge of the pavement. Its longest branches have been sawed off so that it will suit the upper space and the other branches, along with the roots, are in burlap strait-jackets bound with rope. Soon it will be locked in with concrete and fed water through steel bars on the sidewalk level, the rest of its life a prisoner of the city.

Imbedded in one of the walls of the Paramount Theatre is a collection of stones from all parts of the world. There are samples from ancient Mayan temples, St. Paul's Cathedral, the old Royal Palace of Berlin and Canada's Parliament Buildings. But this collection of stones won't be complete until there is added to it the hearts of some of the modern tyrants who have brought so much unhappiness to the world.

In front of the Astor Hotel on Saturday night, where and when thousands push past every hour, my ear caught the clank of metal against the sidewalk. Then my eye lit on a key that gleamed amid the multitude of moving legs. I retrieved it. About eight feet from me an actorish-looking fellow scanned the pavement frantically. His anxiety seemed out of all proportion to the loss of a mere key and when I offered it to him he was overcome with gratitude. "That's my house key," he said emotionally. "I owe my landlord two weeks rent and if I have to wake him to let me in, he might say 'As long as you're on the outside, stay on the outside'."

* * *

Nor Gloom of Night

Broadway is The Prettified Forest. The lights of the Great Bright Way hold the dark at bay for ten blocks and ten hours. As midnight falls further behind the din and the glare declines and the people disappear into the subways like water into a sewer opening. Then the night begins to hold its own and at last regains the upper hand. But soon loses it to the day.

Television in barrooms is the big thing in New York right now, adding to the pleasures of the gin-and-sin set. I saw Ted Williams hit a home run on a Dumont set with a screen about 12x18 inches and the game was easy to follow, even if the image got mottled occasionally. I remember when the sign on the barroom window said "Biggest nickel beer in town." Now it offers "Biggest television in town." The new form of entertainment, which double-features John Barleycorn and Sports in opposition to the movies, reminds me of Henny Youngman's crack during one of the Miami Variety entertainments. Youngman, whom Miami papers advertise as a star of "Stage, Screen and Radar," said: "I tried to get a job as a bartender — but I didn't know how to fix the television set."

A sign on 32nd Street, advertising a store on 42nd, said: "Take Cab — We Pay Fare." I was tempted to do that, purchase nothing and see what happened. But, as one skeleton said to the other, "I wish I had some intestinal fortitude."

A sign in a 42nd Street theatre: "Don't Look Now. Lobby Being Redecorated."

There's a King Edward Hotel near Broadway. I noticed it on my sixth day there and it reminded me of home, where we also have one. When something like that reminds you of the pleasures of home in a place like New York, it means that the charm has diminished and the fever of wanderlust abated. And it is time to go home.

Typodermic Injections

The most enterprising newsreel in Canada is Paramount's, it seems. Win Barron worked right through a couple of days and whisked back here from NY with the first pictures of Their Majesties' 25th wedding anniversary and the installation of Princess Elizabeth as a Lady of the Garter and of the Duke of Edinburgh as a Knight. Scooped his rivals again . . . **Toronto's Lou Applebaum conducted** the orchestra and helped write the music for that surrealist film that is attracting so much attention in the USA, "Dreams That Money Can Buy" . . . **Canadian Motion Picture** Productions world-preemed "Sins of the Fathers," a social hygiene feature, in Montreal recently. Starred in by Austin Willis, produced by Larry Cromien and directed by Hollywood's Phil Rosen, it won praise from the critics.

Sorry that I missed the openings of the Biltmore and the Odeon Danforth, which add much to the Toronto theatre scene, particularly the latter house, which is worth a visit from any showman. It's an adventure in theatre construction. I was also invited to the opening of the Vogue, Halifax, by Joe and Mitch Franklin and Peter Herschorn. I hear it's also a beauty . . . **In Montreal** a NYU prof called the radio, motion pictures and pulp magazines "mental flophouses." His failure to make a distinction between the first two and the last doesn't say much for the critic . . . **Babs A. Scott,** they say, will sign with MGM . . . **Films** got a panning in the BC legislature . . . **At the Biscayne** dog track in Miami I heard a woman, a first-timer, wail: "I shouldn't have come. At the horse races I always bet according to the color of the jockey's cap. But dogs don't wear caps. I just don't know how to bet."

Congrats to that old daredevil, Larry Graburn, who just got married . . . **To those enquirers:** I still don't know what that Canadian Co-op Plan is all about and what it has to do with the question of remittances that was raised in the House in February . . . **Overheard:** "I never knew a man with more money than he can use who didn't want more". . . . **Sign in the** Penn Station book store, NY: "Books are imprisoned until someone takes them down from the shelf and reads them". . . **In "The Big Clock"** Ray Milland, an outstanding editor, used the phrase, "the true facts." Facts are true as such and the phrase a redundant one . . . **Archie and Sylvia** Laurie sent me a birthday card one month late. So Archie wrote on it: "Retroactive to March 30th."

THE PICK OF THE PICTURES

Canadian Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

REVIEWS INFORMATION RATINGS

Vol. 13, No. 19 REVIEWS FROM FILM DAILY, NEW YORK $2.00 Per Annum

The Sign of The Ram

with Susan Peters, Alexander Knox, Phyllis Thaxter

Columbia 88 Mins.

SHOULD KNOCK OFF BIG MONEY FROM FEMALE TRADE; GOOD DRAMA HAS HIGHLY EXPLOITABLE STORY ELEMENT; TELLING PERFORMANCES.

The dramatic entertainment offered here has been astutely fashioned. The indication is apparent soon after it gets started that it was designed to capture the attention of the disaff side of the audience element.

The film is highly exploitable. Marking the return to the screen of the accomplished Susan Peters, the title derives from the astrological zodiacal sign.

It is a compelling job of dissection which uncovers the inner workings of a selfish woman's mind. The main role of a domineering invalid is pointedly performed by Miss Peters.

Miss Peters was invalided when she rescues her husband's children, by a former marriage, from drowning. Alexander Knox, Allene Roberts and Ross Ford are highly indebted to her. Miss Peters is a minor poet. Phyllis Thaxter comes to live at their home in Cornwall and also serve as secretary to Miss Peters.

A budding romance between Miss Roberts and Ron Randell is disturbed in its initial stage by Miss Peters. This leads to a breaking off. Later Ross Ford falls in love with his childhood sweetie, Diana Douglas. Miss Peters forthwith casts a dubious shadow on Miss Douglas' parentage and ancestry. This leads the girl to attempt suicide. Miss Peters' most passionate devotee among Knox' children is Peggy Ann Garner. When an innocent event appears incriminating, Miss Garner tries to give Miss Thaxter an overdose of sleeping pills. She is saved however.

Miss Peters' real nature comes to the surface shortly after the attempt on Miss Thaxter and being thoroughly defeated in her purpose she runs her wheelchair to the edge of a cliff, throws herself over.

CAST: Susan Peters, Alexander Knox, Phyllis Thaxter, Peggy Ann Garner, Ron Randell, Dame May Whitty.

CREDITS: An Irving Cummings Production; Produced by Irving Cummings, Jr.; Director, John Sturges; Screenplay, Charles Bennett; Based on the novel by Margaret Ferguson; Photography, Burnett Guffey.

DIRECTION, Able.

PHOTOGRAPHY, Fine.

An Ideal Husband

with Paulette Goddard, Michael Wilding, Diana Wynyard

Korda-20th-Fox 96 Mins.

RESPLENDENT TECHNICOLOR JOB WILL REQUIRE SHREWD HANDLING FOR BEST RESULTS.

Sir Alexander Korda has given Oscar Wilde's play resplendent Technicolor production. He has peopled the cast with accomplished players. Whenever Glynis Johns appears it is like a shaft of bright sunlight warming the proceedings with innocent charm. When she speaks her lines it is music. There are other creditable factors in the production such as costuming by Cecil Beaton and a series of compelling roles performed with neat dispatch. Miss Goddard is fitting; other worthies include C. Aubrey Smith, Hugh Williams, Diana Wynyard. The film is the sort of thing they do very well in England.

But in terms of general box-office return and audience acceptance the picture is definitely an offering that will be met and keenly enjoyed by a limited and fractional percentage of the nation's filmgoers.

"An Ideal Husband" is the story of how "Mrs. Cheveley" returns to London determined to launch a fraudulent scheme with the assistance of a member of parliament. She has some incriminating goods on the man. Invading his home she lays her case before him—either he assists or she ruins him. Her failing is to try and use her wiles on "Lord Goring," played by Michael Wilding. Coincidence, a moot factor in the fabrication of the plot, causes a turn in events and first thing Wilding has Miss Goddard over the well known barrel. Now, with the tables turned, she either puts up—in this case an incriminating letter — or Wilding will inform the world she once was a thief. It is agreed. She tries a last move with another letter. It misfires and proves an instrument of inspiration rather than degradation. The affair is settled. Wilding is free to marry Glynis Johns.

CAST: Paulette Goddard, Michael Wilding, Diana Wynyard, Glynis Johns, Constance Collier, Sir Aubrey Smith.

CREDITS: Produced and directed by Alexander Korda; Screenplay, Lajos Biro; Photography, Georges Perinal.

DIRECTION, Good.

PHOTOGRAPHY, Fine.

Alias a Gentleman

with Wallace Beery, Tom Drake, Dorothy Patrick

MGM 76 Mins.

REGULATION BEERY NUMBER SHOULD ATTRACT HIS FOLLOWING; GOOD PRODUCTION VALUES.

Annual grimacing and nose-rubbing which is part of the thespic display by Wallace Beery is apparent enough in this program number and should serve to keep him in the public eye until something better comes along. Comedy content also relies on distorting the pronunciation of the King's English and a bit of a travesty on French verbiage. Yarn has to do with criminal reform in the face of old cronies who would like Beery to return to the rackets.

Soon to be released, Beery is informed his farm in Oklahoma is sought by an oil company. Forthwith he sells for $250,000. On the outside, he seeks his grown daughter. Leon Ames learns of this, plants Miss Patrick on the scene. His purpose is to learn where the money is kept. Beery, legit this time, has a bank account. Miss Patrick, an actress, applies herself. Then Tom Drake, jailmate of Beery's, shows up. Between romance, the connivery of Ames, the duplicity of Miss Patrick and whathaveyou, the piece boils along to its conclusion with Beery pulling a neat switch, the cops collaring Ames and cohorts. Miss Patrick tells the truth and it looks like double nuptials at the finish. Beery had been rather sweet on Gladys George.

"Alias A Gentleman" has good production, fair performances. In the story sense it is quite a simple affair that goes its simple way, generates what is demanded from the plot and achieves the familiar happy ending. Otherwise, with the exception of the value of Beery's name in the proceedings, it is not much. Harry Beaumont directed.

CAST: Wallace Beery, Tom Drake, Dorothy Patrick, Gladys George, Leon Ames, Warner Anderson, John Qualen.

CREDITS: Producer Nat Perrin; Director, Harry Beaumont; Screenplay, William R. Lipman; Based on a story by Peter Ruric; Photography, Ray June.

DIRECTION, Adequate.

PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

MGM Signs Nolan

Lloyd Nolan has been signed by MGM to star in "Sun in the Morning," opposite Jeannette MacDonald.

If You Knew Susie

with Eddie Cantor, Joan Davis

RKO 90 Mins.

THIS CANTOR - DAVIS ROMP SHOULD GAYLY MAKE THE BIG MONEY GRADE; SHOULD ATTRACT BIG GENERAL AUDIENCE TO THE BO.

Setting the production sights to encompass the entire general audience field Producer Eddie Cantor loaded this one with everything. The eventual target demands from both himself and Joan Davis in the line of laugh getting material, a light farce story treatment, songs and the familiar like set against backgrounds of show folk who retire to New England, fail to acclimatize at first, but make the well known comeback for the final happy denouement.

Zestful is the word for the display given by Cantor and Miss Davis. It is the sort of romp rightfully fitting to their talents which weekly storm the ether waves albeit invisibly.

As "Sam Parker" Cantor and his wife, played by Miss Davis, take up living at the family home in a Massachusetts town so their children can be brought up in proper surroundings. Cantor impresses the townfolk in a Paul Revere celebration but slips when he divulges a plan to convert his home into a nitery.

On opening night nobody shows up. Outlook has red ink written all over it so Cantor decides to sell. At an ensuing auction a letter from George Washington is found. It is a "Parker" family heirloom acknowledging service to the country to the tune of $50,000 in Revolutionary times. Cantor and Miss Davis go to Washington with the letter. They get the run-around but eventually, after a series of diverting sequences, the piece concludes on a merry musical note, but not before the letter is authenticated. Cantor refuses to accept the accumulation of money which is tremendous. He burns the letter, returns home and his patriotism triumphant, his neighbors greet him warmly. He opens the nitery, it is a success.

CAST: Eddie Cantor, Joan Davis, Allyn Joslyn, Charles Dingle, Phil Brown, Sheldon Leonard, Joe Sawyer.

CREDITS: Producer, Eddie Cantor; Director, Gordon M. Douglas; Original screenplay, Warren Wilson, Oscar Brodney; Photography, Frank Redman.

DIRECTION, Very Good.

PHOTOGRAPHY, Fine.

"THE 20th CENTURY-FOX TRADEMARK IS ALMOST A GUARANTEE OF THE FINEST THAT HOLLYWOOD CAN OFFER!"

By Virg Langdon

Thank

"With each first-run picture opening we become more convinced that a film with the 20th Century-Fox trademark is almost a guarantee of the finest that Hollywood can offer in the way of motion picture entertainment. After viewing the Technicolor treat, "Scudda-Hoo! Scudda-Hay!" at the Roxy yesterday, it suddenly became apparent that, like Frigidaire in its field, 20th Century-Fox has become foremost in the production of motion pictures. We'll cite the following late releases as an example: "The Razor's Edge," "Forever Amber," "Gentleman's Agreement," "Miracle on 34th Street," "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now," "Mother Wore Tights," "The Foxes of Harrow," " Captain From Castile," "Daisy Kenyon," "Call Northside 777," and others of lesser note yet equally well produced.

"Scudda-Hoo! Scudda-Hay!" has been produced in the same flawless manner as its illustrious predecessor, "Home in Indiana," and again reunites Lon McCallister and June Haver, with the peerless Walter Brennan thrown in for good measure."

REPRINTED FROM THE TACOMA NEWS-TRIBUNE

...you Mr. Langdon—

And for equally fine attractions, we call your attention to . . . . .

SITTING PRETTY

20th's all-time record-breaking laugh hit! Variety's Box-office Survey Reports It's Leading The Field!

FURY AT FURNACE CREEK

In the Winning of the West This Flaming Saga of Vengeance and Heroism was born!

THE IRON CURTAIN

Week of May 12! 500 Theatres in Spectacular Nation-Wide World premiere!

ESCAPE

John Galsworthy's immortal drama brings the screen its outstanding portrayal of unremitting suspense!

GREEN GRASS OF WYOMING

Technicolor

The finest outdoor adventure picture of them all! Greatness to match the grandeur of the West's rugged cliffs and canyons!

Pastor Prays For New Pic House

(Continued from Page 1)

to this prayer, which reads:

"Our Father, we come to invoke Thy blessings upon this gathering of citizens who are here for the opening of this splendid institution.

"We pray that Thou wilt rest Thy blessings upon the owner of this theatre. We give Thee thanks for all of the tireless effort which has been put forth to make possible such an institution for the benefit of the people of this area. Thy blessings be upon his family. Bless the people of our town and of our Nation in these days of restlessness and uncertainty.

"We thank Thee for the technological advances which make possible entertainment for the common man. Most of us who are here are caught in the monotony of a work-a-day world. Our lives are filled with mundane things, so that we need this medium of escape from the hard, difficult places of life to recreate ourselves. To some of us this offers our only means of recreation.

"We thank Thee for the movie screen which has made of us world travelers. Most of us will never see the palms waving on a Pacific Island or know how people live in the great metropolitan centres of the world. We will never see what life is like in China or in Poland. We will never walk the streets of London or rub shoulders with Fiji Islanders. But through travelogue, we are made aware of the nature of our world and our society. The hope of a peaceful world rests upon an understanding of the people of our world and this is a means to that understanding.

"We thank Thee for this medium of teaching. That which we read may be little understood, but not that which we see. Many of us with limited education have had opened to us vast vistas of new information of which we had never dreamed.

"Grant us wisdom to use this mode of entertainment and education wisely. May we have insight so as to separate truth from farce. Enable us to be wise enough to see that farce can be used in such fashion as to teach and to demonstrate the right.

"Give courage to the leaders of the industry so that they may face squarely the issues of life. Help them to know their responsibility to society. Grant, we pray Thee, to the motion picture industry a sense of its responsibility to foster clean living, since it is such a powerful instrument in the formation of character. May it glorify the good rather than the evil.

"Let Thy blessings be upon every person here and lead us on to full and abundant life. In Jesus' name, amen."

Toronto Biltmore Opening

Top photograph shows the scene in front of the new Biltmore Theatres Limited's Toronto house, the Biltmore, at its recent opening.

Bottom scene, taken at the party which preceded the opening, shows the heads of Biltmore Theatres, B. M. Okun at the left, Ben Okun in the centre and Myer Okun at the right with members of their families.

The theatre, which seats some 950 people, is located in the downtown section of the city at Yonge and Dundas Streets.

Columbia To Make 'Jolson' Sequel

Columbia Pictures, producers of "The Jolson Story," has announced that negotiations with Al Jolson have been completed and the sequel to the first film will also be made at its studios.

Film will be based on further incidents in the life of Jolson and expectations are that Larry Parks will again portray the great entertainer with Jolson doing the singing once more.

IPS Men Guests Of Gen'l Theatre Supply

Over 100 projectionists, members of the International Projection Society, were guests of General Theatre Supply Co. Ltd. at a recent luncheon and demonstration which was held in the International Room of the Columbia Pictures building, Toronto.

General Theatre Supply sponsored the affair for the express purpose of demonstrating the Simplex E7 Projector and the Simplex Four Star Sound System, coupled with the Peerless Magnarc projection arc lamp.

The projector and arc lamp were exhibited by Tommy Hoad, who spoke of the many improvements and refinements.

Decline In Param't Overall Earnings

(Continued from Page 1)

cently by Barney Balaban, president. These earnings include $3,429,000 representing Paramount's direct and indirect net interest as a stockholder in the combined undistributed earnings for the year of partly owned non-consolidated companies. The earnings include $3,429,000 representing Paramount's direct and indirect net interest as a stockholder in the combined undistributed earnings for the year of partly owned non-consolidated companies. The earnings for the fiscal year 1946 (53 weeks) on the same basis were $44,042,106 including $4,843,000 share of undistributed earnings of partly owned non-consolidated companies.

Operating revenues of consolidated companies for the year 1947 were $189,025,600, as compared with $194,701,099 for the year 1946, and operating revenues of partly owned non-consolidated companies aggregated approximately $150,000,000 for each of the years 1947 and 1946 of which Paramount's share was approximately $70,000,000 for each year.

The amount earned per common share for 1947 on the basis of combined consolidated earnings and undistributed earnings of partly owned non-consolidated companies was $4.46 on the 7,092,839 shares outstanding and in the hands of the public on January 3rd, 1948, which compares with $5.92 per share for the year 1946 on 7,443,772 shares outstanding on January 4th, 1947.

Dividends paid during the year amounted to $14,347,778 or $2.00 per share, compared with $12,358,349 in 1946 or $1.65 per share.

The consolidated balance sheet shows that cash and government securities on January 3rd, 1948, amounted to $38,575,544, all located in the United States and Canada except $699,271 in Great Britain, $591,601 in nations in the western hemisphere and $589,052 in other foreign countries. Total current assets were $95,511,702 and current liabilities $16,067,434, leaving a net working capital of $79,444,268, an increase of $5,881,969 during the year.

To Make Film Debut

Eddie Garr, for two decades one of the best known vaudeville and night-club comedians, will make his screen debut as the top comic in Columbia's "Ladies of the Chorus." Harry Romm will produce the film, which has a turn-of-the-century burlesque background and goes into production shortly.

18 New FPC Houses For 1948

governments, in addition to the handling of forms for deductions of taxes from employees' wages, unemployment insurance, sales tax etc., has added materially to our cost of operation," Fitzgibbons said. "For example, in 1947 we were obliged to handle over $8,000,000 in various amusement taxes alone. Now it has been announced that when the Dominion government vacates the amusement tax field the Province of Ontario intends to put a 20 per cent tax on theatre tickets. Manitoba is considering a tax of 25 per cent on all tickets over 25 cents and British Columbia plans to impose a tax of 20 per cent. The 20 per cent tax imposed by the Dominion Government was strictly a wartime measure. Such a tax imposed by the provinces would be out of all proportion. It will have a direct effect upon people in the lower income brackets who can least afford to pay a premium on the type of amusement which has come to be recognized as almost an essential."

Fitzgibbons stated that the company's realty taxes and other taxes for Famous Players and affiliates run well over $1,000,000 annually plus in the neighborhood of $3,000,000 in income taxes which, added to the amusement taxes meant that the company was handling close to $12,000,000 annually in one form or another.

Praises Personnel

"For many years," he said, "an exceptionally fine job of public relations has been done by our publicity department. A particularly good job has been done in the field of employee-employer relations by James R. Nairn, head of that department and his staff through our company publication, 'What's New' and other media. Excellent promotion work has been accomplished by this department through juvenile shows for children, the sale of gift tickets, which as you know, has become an important phase of our operation. Many features instituted by this department have been copied in the United States by some of the bigger circuits. I just call this to your attention because I think the publicity department has been the last to receive credit because it is something that cannot be

(Continued from Page 1)

put into figures on the balance sheet. I think the head of the department, his assistant Jack Barker, Jimmy Cameron and Bert Brown deserve comment for the tremendous job they have done which has made a substantial contribution to the balance sheet of this company."

Fitzgibbons touched on the services rendered by several other departments and paid especial tribute to Peter D. Brown, president of General Theatre Supply Co. "It is a source of great satisfaction to all of us to know that when we plan to build or remodel a theatre we can be assured of obtaining the finest in projection and sound equipment through Mr. Brown," he said. "And in spite of all restrictions and difficulties this company maintained its service all during the war years."

Building, Confections

He called the attention of the shareholders to the fine job being done by the maintenance, construction and purchasing departments headed by Jules Wolfe in the east, John Ferguson in Winnipeg and John McCausland in Vancouver.

"If you have visited the Nortown or any other new theatre we have recently opened I think you will agree that we have in Mr. Wolfe and his staff headed by Jack Harper, an exceptionally fine organization. Also in the west we have been able to add two supervisors with architectual training, to our staff. Both John Ferguson and John McCausland, who have taken over the work of the late Vic Armand, are doing splendid jobs.

"I direct all this to your attention because as shareholders we think you should know that your properties are being well cared for. These departments will spend somewhere near $3,000,000 this year in building and reconstructing so it is important for you to know the kind of manpower we have," said Fitzgibbons.

The president stressed the growing importance of confections in the company's operations and told the shareholders of the recent merger through which Theatre Confections Ltd., a Famous Players' subsidiary company, took over the assets, warehousing and services of Hollywood Confections Ltd. under the presidency of John J. Fitzgibbons, Jr. He told of the expanding services of Theatre Confections Ltd. which has established a branch in Vancouver under Kevin Fitzgibbons and would shortly open another branch in Winnipeg under the direction of Ken Wells. Fitzgibbons spoke of the fine work of the men who operate Theatre Confections Ltd. and made special reference to the services of Neil Troy and James Stevenson, the former president.

Public Service

The company spends about $1,200,000 a year in newspaper advertising and another $600,000 in other forms of advertising and now has an annual payroll of about $6,000,000, he said.

"It might interest you to know that our theatres are not used exclusively for the presentation of motion pictures," said Fitzgibbons. "Recently a church was burned down in Sudbury and our manager turned our theatre over to the congregation without charge until the people can build another house of worship. Our theatres were used for public benefits on numerous occasions. In Cornwall we helped with the disaster relief benefit. During the period of the miners' strike in Glace Bay we distributed, through civic agencies, free tickets to provide entertainment for people who could not afford to pay for theatre tickets. We have cooperated with the government, Red Cross, Salvation Army and other agencies by presenting appeal messages on our screens without charge.

"Last, but not least," he said, "this company is rich in grass root partners and associates who operate their own businesses and play important parts in their communities. We also have a small army of experienced men and women who have grown up with us and who administer the affairs of this company. To each of them we extend our thanks and best wishes."

The shareholders re-elected the board of directors and officers.

Fox Sales Campaign

(Continued from Page 1)

With W. C. Gehring, assistant general sales manager, supervising the nationwide activities of the Anniversary Month celebration, the division heads—Herman Webber of San Francisco, western sales manager; Harry G. Ballance of Atlanta, southern sales manager; Raymond E. Moon of New York, eastern sales manager; Jack Lorentz of Chicago, central sales manager; and Arthur Silverstone of Toronto, Canadian sales manager — have received assurances from their personnel of an intensive drive during the anniversary period in honor of Smith.

A record number of bookings have been promised by the sales staff during the 28-day period, based on what executives consider the most impressive line-up of pictures ever offered by the company.

Twentieth Century-Fox' entire schedule of pictures released since the first of the year will be available to exhibitors for the anniversary celebration, which will begin exactly one year from the date announcement was made of Smith's appointment to assistant general sale manager and Gehring's elevation to assistant general sales manager.

Among the pictures available during the month are such company successes as "Captain From Castile," "You Were Meant for Me," "Call Northside 777," "Gentleman's Agreement." "An Ideal Husband," "Sitting Pretty," "Scudda Hoo! Scudda Hav!", "Fury at Furnace Creek," "The Iron Curtain," and "Anna Karenina."

In addition, Twentieth Century-Fox will release two of its most important pictures of the year during the month of June, it was announced by Smith. During the first half of the month "Green Grass of Wyoming," produced in Technicolor from the Mary O'Hara best-selling novel and starring Peggy Cummins, Charles Coburn and Robert Arthur, will go into release. The latter half of June will see the release of "Deep Waters" starring Dana Andrews and Jean Peters, which is based on the popular novel "Spoonhandle" and deals with Maine deep-sea fishermen.

Intensive advertising and publicity campaigns are being placed behind all pictures being released during the drive period by Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising and publicity. Special handling is being given "The Iron Curtain" which tees off in May in a record 500 situation saturation premiere.

McCallister Signed

Lon McCallister has been signed by William Moss, producer, for the starring role in Eagle Lion (Hollywood) Films' Technicolor "The Big Cat."

'Buddy' Rogers Stars

Charles "Buddy" Rogers will return to the screen after an absence of several years to star in United Artists "An Innocent Affair."

MPAA Re-elects All Directors

At its recent annual meeting the Motion Picture Association of America re-elected all directors and accepted Republic Pictures Corporation as a new member company.

The meeting was conducted largely by proxy. In the absence of Eric Johnston, Francis Harmon presided, while Sidney Schreiber acted as secretary.

Members of the directorate who were re-elected are: Cecil B. DeMille, Edgar B. Hatrick, Joseph H. Hazen, Hal E. Roach, Herman Robbins.

Also S. Broidy, Allied Artists; Jack Cohn, Columbia; Abe Schneider, Columbia; Earle W. Hammons, Educational; Nicholas M. Schenck, Loew's; Joseph R. Vogel, Loew's; Barney Balaban, Paramount; Austin C. Keough, Paramount; Ned E. Depinet, RKO; Spyros P. Skouras, 20th-Century-Fox; W. C. Michel, 20th-Fox; Nate J. Blumberg, Universal; John J. O'Connor, Universal; Albert Warner, Warner; Sam Schneider, Warner; Eric A. Johnston, MPAA; and George Borthwick, MPAA.

Theatre Staffs Plan Buffalo Outing

Staffs of all Toronto Famous Players and B&F theatres are invited to participate in an outing to Buffalo on Sunday, May 23rd. Busses will leave the bus terminal on Bay St. about 8 a.m. and leave Buffalo around midnight for the return trip.

A stopover at Niagara Falls has been arranged and the afternoon will be spent in touring Buffalo and shopping. Reservations have been made at the Town Casino for dinner and the two-hour floor show. Cost is $4 per person which does not include price of the dinner.

Further details can be obtained by anyone interested from Steve Caren at the Tivoli Theatre, ELgin 4341.

Suit Against FPCC Dismissed By Judge

Justice Whittaker of the Supreme Court in Vancouver recently dismissed the suit against Famous Players Canadian Corporation, operators of the Orpheum Theatre in Vancouver, brought by Mrs. Minnie Brooks, who fell last year going down the lower balcony stairs of the Orpheum and broke her ankle.

After over three hours of deliberation, the eight-man jury voted six to two to find the defendant not liable and the suits of Mrs. Brooks for general damages and her husband for medical expenses were dismissed.

ECHOES and REFLECTIONS

View-Blocking Hats in Theatres

(From the Stratford, Ontario, Beacon Herald)

A dispatch from Rome states that an order has been issud that women occupying any seats except in the boxes must remove hats that impair the view of patrons.

This is an old grievance of theatre-goers, but nowadays women are much more co-operative than they used to be. Few are so selfish as to keep on a hat which they must know blocks the view of the stage to the person sitting behind.

Years ago there was a "matinee-hat" incident in London that received national publicity, being a subject that concerned multitudes of people, and was fully reported in the newspapers. The affair was amicably settled in court, but it had a surprising sequel.

As recalled by a St. Thomas Times-Journal editorial writer, one afternoon, two ladies, one of them a well-known novelist, entered the Prince of Wales Theatre. Shortly after the performance began, there was a slight disturbance created by two men sitting behind them in the stalls who had asked them to remove their hats, which, while not the "funny" variety of today, were the large, flowery kind prevalent at that time. The ladies demurred, and one of the men left his seat and called the manager, the well-known producer, Frank Curzon. Mr. Curzon invited the ladies to come out in the foyer, which they did willingly. An argument followed, and one of the ladies alleged that Mr. Curzon assaulted her. She summoned him for assault and the case was heard at Bow Street police court. In the course of the hearing, Mr. Curzon admitted that he had taken hold of the lady's arm, and therefore had committed a technical assault; but after several hearings the lady agreed to forgive him, and the charge was withdrawn. Mr. Curzon and the plaintiff were subsequently photographed shaking hands and smiling at each other outside the court.

That seemed the end of that, but a few days later Mr. Curzon announced that a public showing of small "matinee hats" would be held in the foyer of the theatre, and it attracted a large attendance of women, who were no doubt prospective buyers.

But that was not all. There was another sequel to the case several months later. A "press agent," who in modern parlance would be described as a "public relations counsel," sued the chief parties in the case for a large fee. It was surprising that they did not pay up and not allow the case to be aired in court, because it was revealed that the whole business of the big hats in the theatre was a "frame up," or publicity stunt to which Mr. Curzon, the two ladies, the men behind them and the proprietor of the hat shop were partners in a conspiracy for the purpose of obtaining free publicity for the new line of hats.

However, the case brought about a reform. Smaller hats did become the vogue, and, in addition, women began voluntarily to remove their hats in places of entertainment.

New Firm Formed

A new company, William Moss Pictures, Incorporated, has been formed and the company's initial film will be Morton Grant's original outdoor drama, "Judgment in the Wilderness," which will be filmed in Cinecolor and released by Eagle Lion (Hollywood) Films.

Signs Hayward

Susan Hayward has been signed by Walter Wanger to star in his Technicolor production of "Anne of the Indies," which will be released by Eagle Lion (Hollywood) Films. She will have the role of Anne Bonny, fabulous red-headed female pirate of the early 18th century.

Report On NFB Work Abroad

Answers to enquiries of A. M. Stewart, House of Commons member for Winnipeg North, revealed some interesting information about the National Film Board's activities outside of Canada from April 1st, 1947, to December 31st, 1947. Stewart's first question dealt with locations of NFB offices in the USA and abroad, his second with personnel and salaries, and his third with film distribution. Answers to the third question follow:

"3. (a) Films sold:

Canada, 2,189 prints; British commonwealth (excluding Canada), 234 prints; United States, 1,060 prints; other countries, 93 prints.

Note: The figures given in 3 (a) are sales to agencies and exhibitors who, in turn, rent or exhibit the films free, but no reports or records on such showings or rentals are provided to the National Film Board.

(b) Films rented:

Canada, 150 prints—total 47,194 recorded showings; British commonwealth (excluding Canada), 214 prints—total 6,091 recorded showings; United States, 399 prints—total 3,466 recorded showings; other countries, 168 prints — total 4,558 estimated showings.

Note: The figures given in 3 (b) are rentals made directly by the National Film Board and do not take account of rentals of films which have been sold to agencies or exhibitors.

(c) Films exhibited free:

Canada, 16,831 prints — total 120,941 recorded showings; British commonwealth (excluding Canada), 3,302 prints—total 32,612 recorded showings; United States, 655 prints—total 2,940 recorded showings; other countries, 2,487 prints—total 7,640 estimated showings.

Note: The figures given in 3 (c) do not include prints of newsreel stories of which 16 stories were released by major newsreel companies in the United States for world distributors reaching audiences estimated at more than 70 million."

Theatre Case Before Mediation Board

The mediation board of the Province of Saskatchewan recently heard the case of H. Phillet's Royal Theatre in Moose Jaw, owner of certain premises, versus the Maple Leaf Taxi, renter of the premises.

The taxi company requested the mediation board allow more time to find new accomodations as a notice to vacate had been issued by the theatre.

TIMELY! TOPICAL! TERRIFIC!

"Fast melodrama backed by solid cast and authentic backgrounds... might ride the headlines into the boff B.O. class." — *VARIETY*

"First-rate mystery thriller... Strong cast... Background shots outstanding." — *BOXOFFICE*

"Exciting melodrama... most of the film was made on the scene—Paris, Frankfurt, Berlin..." — *M. P. HERALD*

"Sure-fire boxoffice...melodrama comparable with the best." — *FILM DAILY*

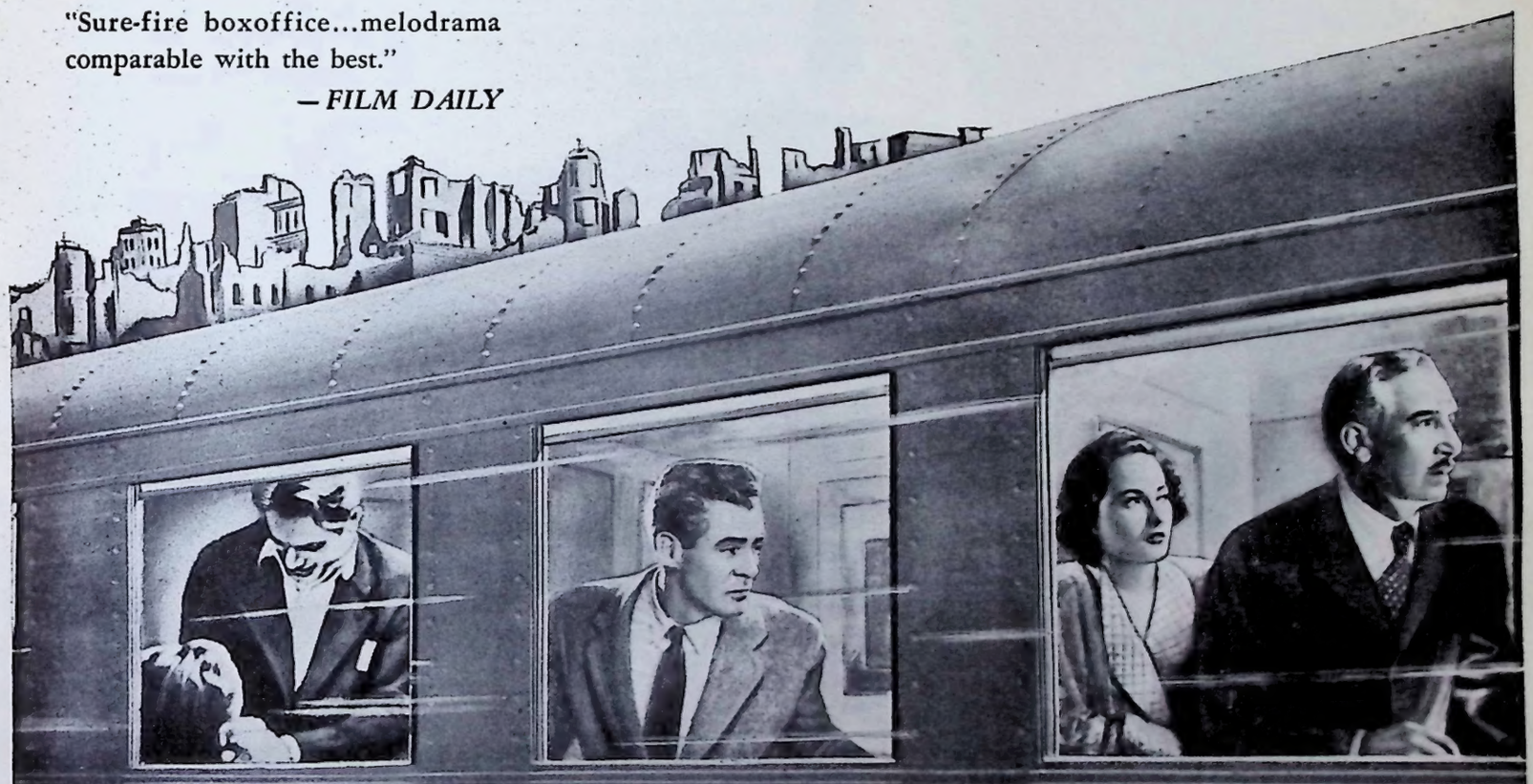
"First-rate melodrama...superb touches of realism and on-the-spot background photography." — *M. P. DAILY*

"Exciting...well made and maintains interest on high..." — *THE EXHIBITOR*

"Thrilling, absorbing, timely, dramatic... Extensive exploitation recommended." — *SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW*

"As action display and exploitation item, geared for quick, profitable playoff." — *HOLLYWOOD REPORTER*

"Shots of bombed-out Berlin and Frankfurt alone make it worth the price of admission." — *DAILY VARIETY*



Merle Oberon · Robert Ryan · Charles Korvin · Paul Lukas

in

Berlin Express

RKO RADIO PICTURES

DORE SCHARY in charge of production

Produced by BERT GRANET · Directed by JACQUES TOURNEUR

Screen Play by HAROLD MEDFORD

THE SCREEN'S *MIGHTIEST* DRAMA OF A STALLION OUTLAW...

in magnificent outdoor **CINECOLOR!**

IT'S THE FIRST AUTRY COLOR PICTURE

COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

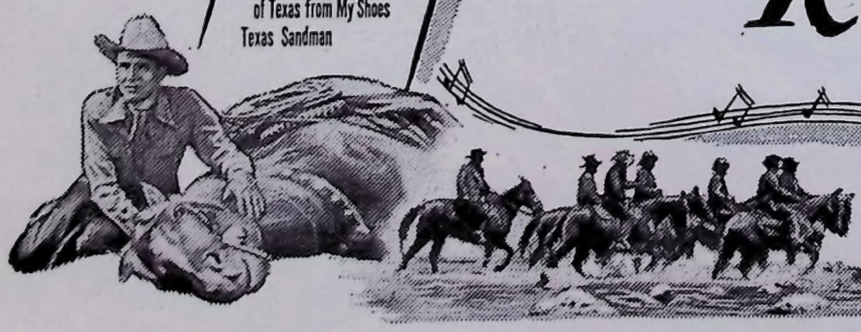
GENE AUTRY

and his famous horse, CHAMPION

The STRAWBERRY ROAN

HEAR AUTRY SING

The Strawberry Roan
When the White Roses Bloom in Red River Valley
The Angel Song
Can't Shake the Sands of Texas from My Shoes
Texas Sandman



with GLORIA HENRY · JACK HOLT · DICK JONES · PAT BUTTRAM

Screenplay by Dwight Cummins and Dorothy Yost

Directed by JOHN ENGLISH · Produced by ARMAND SCHAEFER

A Gene Autry Production

A COLUMBIA PICTURE